



Mixed Tenses: All Tenses Review (B2)

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- By the time the rescue team arrived, the hikers ___ for three days without food.
a) survived
b) were surviving
c) had been surviving
d) have been surviving
- This is the first time I ___ such a challenging exam.
a) take
b) have taken
c) took
d) had taken
- She ___ the company for 20 years when she finally became CEO.
a) worked for
b) had been working for
c) was working for
d) has been working for
- I wish I ___ harder when I was at university.
a) studied
b) had studied
c) have studied
d) was studying
- By next December, they ___ married for 25 years.
a) are
b) will be
c) will have been
d) have been
- The scientist ___ on this research for a decade, and she's still making discoveries.
a) has been working
b) is working
c) works
d) worked
- At this time tomorrow, the CEO ___ the quarterly results to shareholders.
a) presents
b) is presenting
c) will present
d) will be presenting
- The more I ___ about this issue, the more concerned I become.
a) have learned
b) am learning
c) learn
d) had learned
- If you ___ me earlier, I could have helped you.
a) had told
b) told
c) have told
d) would tell
- She ___ to resign, but she changed her mind at the last minute.
a) was going
b) went
c) has gone
d) had gone
- No sooner ___ home than it started to rain.
a) had I got
b) I got
c) I have got
d) I was getting

12. It's high time you ___ looking for a new job.
a) started
b) have started
c) will start
d) start
13. I ___ you were coming, so I didn't prepare any food.
a) wasn't knowing
b) don't know
c) haven't known
d) didn't know
14. By the end of this month, I ___ at this company for exactly five years.
a) will work
b) will be working
c) will have worked
d) will have been working
15. The rumor ___ around the office all week.
a) goes
b) is going
c) has been going
d) went
16. Hardly ___ the presentation when the fire alarm went off.
a) she started
b) had she started
c) she has started
d) did she start
17. I'd rather you ___ me before making such an important decision.
a) consult
b) had consulted
c) have consulted
d) consulted
18. The company ___ significant progress since the new management took over.
a) makes
b) is making
c) made
d) has made
19. This time next year, I ___ in my new apartment in London.
a) live
b) am living
c) will have lived
d) will be living
20. As soon as I ___ from you, I'll make the arrangements.
a) am hearing
b) will hear
c) hear
d) have heard



Answers

1. c) had been surviving
2. b) have taken
3. b) had been working for
4. b) had studied
5. c) will have been
6. a) has been working
7. d) will be presenting
8. c) learn
9. a) had told
10. a) was going
11. a) had I got
12. a) started
13. d) didn't know
14. d) will have been working
15. c) has been going
16. b) had she started
17. b) had consulted
18. d) has made
19. d) will be living
20. c) hear



Explanations

1. “had been surviving” (c)

Use Past Perfect Continuous to emphasize the duration of an action that was still going when another past event interrupted it. 'Have been surviving' (Present Perfect Continuous) is wrong because it anchors the duration to now, not to the past arrival.

2. “have taken” (b)

Use Present Perfect after 'This is the first/second time... ' to talk about experiences.

3. “had been working for” (b)

Use Past Perfect Continuous to emphasize the duration of an action before a past achievement. The structure is 'had been + verb-ing'.

4. “had studied” (b)

Use Past Perfect after 'I wish' to express regret about the past.

5. “will have been” (c)

Use Future Perfect for a state that will have lasted a certain duration by a future point.

6. “has been working” (a)

Use Present Perfect Continuous for an action that started in the past and continues now.

7. “will be presenting” (d)

Use Future Continuous for an action in progress at a specific future time.

8. “learn” (c)

Use Present Simple in comparative structures 'The more... the more... '.

9. “had told” (a)

Use Past Perfect in the 'if' clause of third conditional sentences.

10. “was going” (a)

Use 'was going to' for past intentions that didn't happen.

11. “had I got” (a)

Use Past Perfect with inversion after 'No sooner... than'.

12. “started” (a)

Use Past Simple after 'It's (high) time' to express that something should happen now.

13. “didn't know” (d)

Use Past Simple for states in the past. 'Know' is a stative verb.

14. “will have been working” (d)

Use Future Perfect Continuous to emphasize the duration up to a future point.

15. “has been going” (c)

Use Present Perfect Continuous for an action that has been happening recently and may continue.

16. “had she started” (b)

Use Past Perfect with inversion after 'Hardly... when'.

17. “had consulted” (b)

Use Past Perfect after 'I'd rather' when referring to past actions we wish had happened differently.

18. “has made” (d)

Use Present Perfect with 'since' to connect a past event to the present result.

19. “will be living” (d)

Use Future Continuous for a situation that will be in progress at a specific future time.

20. “hear” (c)

Use Present Simple after time conjunctions like 'as soon as' to refer to future events.